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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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<b>COUNTRY</b>	Bulgaria	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	1. Miscellaneous Agricultural Information 2. Commodity Prices	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	31 January 1955
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 Information

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Miscellaneous Agricultural Information

1. Approximately 70 per cent of cultivable land has been nationalized in Bulgaria. The system of "kolkhoz" has not brought about the benefits which the regime had hoped for. Farmers who are members of agricultural cooperatives are discontent; they work with ill will, and in spite of the fact that a considerable incentive has been given through the use of agricultural machinery, the production appears generally to be inferior to what had been expected.
2. The harvest of 1954 has been particularly abundant. Bulgaria had a great deal of snow in the 1953-1954 winter and the fields remained covered with snow until April. This greatly favored the growth of agricultural products.
3. The entire agricultural production of single individuals as well as of cooperatives must be turned over to the State, which returns, at its discretion, a certain quantity of these products to the farmers for their own personal needs. Prices of agricultural products are fixed by the Government from year to year.

Prices and Consumer Goods

4. Informant knew of the following prices which were in effect as of August 1954:

ARTICLE	PRICE IN LEVA
Bread	2-5 leva per kilogram
Sugar	10 leva per kilogram
Butter	27 leva per kilogram
Meat	12-16 leva per kilogram
Macaroni	8 leva per kilogram
Sunflower seed oil	14 leva per kilogram
Low-grade suit	700-800 leva each
Medium quality suit	1500 leva each
Shoes	250 leva per pair
Shirts	100-120 leva each.

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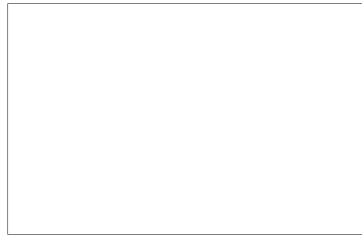
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5. There are few consumer goods available. The products are of a standard type and luxury articles are unavailable. In the main cities of Bulgaria there are many shops which have high quality articles in their show windows. These windows are prepared to give the impression to foreigners that there is an abundance of goods. This abundance does not actually exist since the stores do not have available for sale the articles exhibited in their show-windows.



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